



Social Studies – Ideas and Resources

Inside & Outside the Classroom...

1. You can make wall displays with old calendar photos, or from magazines. You can also buy inexpensive poster to create scenes or backgrounds for blocks or play centers
2. Field trips are an exciting way to expand children's social horizons. Here are a few popular and meaningful field trip ideas with social studies themes.
3. Place a variety of hats in dramatic play area to role play community helpers (construction hat, firefighter hat, athletic cap, chef's hat) or to learn about hats for special occasions (crown, party hats, veil)

Incorporating Social Studies with Other Subjects

You may ask, "How can I plan to cover social studies when I have so many other content areas and skills to plan for? The answer is to integrate social studies with other content areas! Here is a sample lesson plan for preschool. The theme is "Hats!" There are activities that integrate across many content areas such as literacy, math, science and social studies.

1. For a literacy lesson, you can enjoy reading the following books:
 - a. Caps for Sale by Dr. Suess
 - b. Who Took the Farmer's Hat? by Joan L. Nodset
 - c. The Hat by Jan Brett
 - d. Whose Hat is This? by Sharon Katz Cooper
2. Consider planning these math activities:
 - a. Use strips of paper to "measure" around head for hat size
 - b. Stack hat boxes in serial order from largest to smallest
 - c. Sort/graph hats by various features (color, brim/no brim)
 - d. Have children fill hats with manipulatives to see which holds more
3. Try these science activities:
 - a. Match hats to weather (rain hats, sun visors, wool caps)
 - b. Experiment with different materials to see which is best for repelling water (plastic, cloth, straw, etc.)